

# IOWA

## Stanley Museum of Art

UI Stanley Museum of Art receives artwork through Dieu Donn  museum donation program

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IOWA CITY – The University of Iowa Stanley Museum of Art has been given six works of art from Dieu Donn  as part of the nonprofit’s museum donation program. Included in this gift are works from Dieu Donn ’s archive made over the course of two decades by the American artists Beth Campbell, Alison Knowles, Richard M. Polsky, Paul Wong, and B. Wurtz. They will be incorporated into future reinstallations of the Stanley’s three-year inaugural exhibition, *Homecoming* and will be available for study in the museum’s visual laboratory when not on view.

“I am overjoyed to have these artworks join our collection,” states Stanley director, Lauren Lessing, “All six of these works will support the museum’s partnerships with the UI Libraries’ Special Collections department and the Center for the Book, and they reflect the University of Iowa’s long-standing leadership in the fields of visual poetry, bookmaking, and hand papermaking.”

Based in Brooklyn and operative for nearly five decades, Dieu Donn  is a leading nonprofit cultural institution dedicated to introducing artists to the creative possibilities of hand papermaking, fostering experimentation, and creating innovative works of art. Through their museum donation program, Dieu Donn  strives to expand awareness of these practices by placing objects representative of a wide range of hand papermaking techniques in museum collections. In light of the Stanley’s celebrated works on paper collection, the University’s acclaimed studio art program and deep Special Collections holdings, and the presence of the Center for the Book, a longstanding colleague of Dieu Donn , UI was one of the first organizations identified as a potential recipient.

Executive Director of Dieu Donn  Serena Trizzino notes, “The works donated to the Stanley Museum of Art shine as prime examples of hand papermaking as a fine art medium. We are thrilled to have them enter the Stanley’s collection for future generations to study and admire, and to support our mutual educational missions.”

Donations are drawn from artwork produced by individuals who have been in residence at and/or exhibited with Dieu Donn . Included in the gift is Beth Campbell's *Endless Outcomes* (2017), an "arrested mobile" in which the artist embeds strings and shaped components under a translucent abaca overlay. *Bean Snow: Umbrella* (2001) continues Alison Knowles' career-long exploration of beans as a constituent material. In *Untitled* (2021), Richard M. Polsky demonstrates the multidirectional energy that he achieves with a meandering line on thick handmade paper. Two works from Paul Wong's 2016 *Carbon, Silver, and Gold* series, produced for Dieu Donn 's fortieth anniversary, showcase the artist's signature blow-out technique. *Untitled* (2013) captures the humor and energy of B. Wurtz's sculpture, while pushing the boundaries between two- and three-dimensional works on paper.

Established in Iowa City in 1969, the University of Iowa Stanley Museum of Art reopened its doors in August 2022 after a closure of over a decade. The Stanley Museum of Art is a dynamic and innovative teaching and learning resource for the university and its surrounding communities. Its collections include significant holdings of African art, twentieth-century painting and sculpture by artists such as Joan Mitchell, Jackson Pollock, Sam Gilliam, and Isamu Noguchi, works on paper, textiles, and ceramics.

The University of Iowa's Center for the Book offers perhaps the widest range of book arts courses in U.S. higher education. With top-notch facilities and a variety of expert faculty, its courses include bookbinding, historical and arts-based calligraphy, digital design and letterpress production, artist bookwork curricula, and internationally recognized papermaking instruction.